

them. Don Pedro embraced him, but warned him of the great risk of going alone; Saint Denys replied that he felt no fear, and at once with Jallot mounted his horse. He soon overtook the Indians, whose baggage, men and children rendered the march very slow. As soon as he perceived them at a distance, he put his handkerchief on a rod as a flag, then advanced towards the chiefs, who awaited his approach.

1712-25.

He showed them, using the Spanish language, to what dangers they would be exposed by venturing among tribes that they did not know, but whom he knew to be very unsociable and cruel. He then told them that if they would return to their former abode, he would guarantee, in the name of the commandant, that no Spaniard should ever set foot in their villages unless they approved it, and that in the future they should have only reason to praise the officers and soldiers.

They yielded to his arguments, and Don Pedro was no less surprised than delighted to see his guest return with all the Indians, whose flight would undoubtedly have proved his ruin. He instantly ratified all the promises made by Saint Denys, and they returned to their towns, which the Spaniards were forbidden to enter under pain of death, unless by express permission.<sup>2</sup>

After this great service, Saint Denys had no difficulty in inducing Vilescas to give him his daughter in marriage, and the wedding was celebrated with all the Spanish pomp and magnificence that the place permitted. The newly-married pair remained there together six months, when Saint Denys thought that he should no longer delay in returning to report to de la Motte Cadillac the result of

His  
marriage  
with a  
Spanish  
lady.

<sup>1</sup> This should apparently be women.

<sup>2</sup> Domingo Ramon, Derrotero para las Misiones, July 22, 1716, says he sent out St. Denis, with his (Ramon's) son, June 26, 1716, to the Texas or Asinais Indians, with whom St. Denis had great influence. That he brought in 25 Indians, mostly chiefs, and by embracing the mis-

sionaries, made them regard the Spaniards favorably. The chacuano or calumet was then smoked. Bonilla, in his Compendio de los sucesos ocurridos en Tejas desde su Conquista hasta Noviembre de 1772, § 8, also relates this and calls St. Denis "a man worthy of eternal memory."